

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A wound retractor system comprising:-
a retractor having a retracting member for insertion into a wound opening,
wherein the retractor includes a distal portion; and
an insertion tool for inserting or assisting the insertion of or deployment of the retracting member in a the wound opening, wherein the insertion tool includes a groove for receiving the distal portion of the retractor for mounting the retractor to the insertion tool.
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3 1 wherein the distal portion comprises a distal ring member mounted to the retracting member.
6. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 5 wherein the distal ring member is of flexible material.

7. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 5 wherein the ring member is of elastomeric material.

8. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the insertion tool comprises an elongate member having a distal end.

9. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 8 wherein the distal end of the insertion tool has a cutting blade for forming an incision.

10. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 8 wherein the retractor comprises a proximal ring member and the insertion tool has a pusher to push the proximal member towards a distal member to shorten the axial extent between the proximal and distal ring members.

11. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 10 wherein the pusher comprises a blade.

12. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the insertion tool comprises a stop for limiting the extent to which the tool may be inserted through an opening.

13. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 12 wherein the stop is adjustably mounted on the insertion tool.

14. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the insertion tool comprises a handle.

15. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the insertion tool has a wound extending portion with a transverse dimension of from 3 to 35 mm.

16. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 15 wherein the transverse dimension of the wound extending portion is from 5 to 12 mm.

17. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the wound retractor comprises:

a proximal member for location externally of a wound opening;

the proximal member being movable relative to the retracting member to shorten the axial extent of the retracting member to laterally retract a wound opening.

18. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the proximal member comprises an annular ring means.

19. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the annular ring means comprises an inner ring and an outer ring between which the retracting member may be lead.

20. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 19 wherein one of the rings defines a projection for location in a complimentary recess of the outer ring with the retracting member located therebetween.

21. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the projection is a relatively tight fit in the recess to grip the retracting member therebetween.

22. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the projection is locatable in the recess in a snap-fit manner.

23. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the inner ring defines the projection and the outer ring defines the recess.

24. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the outer ring defines the projection and the inner ring defines the recess.

25. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the proximal member comprises one or more valves to facilitate sealed access of an object through the proximal member.

26. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the retractor comprises a distal member coupled to a distal end of the retracting member.

27. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 26 wherein the distal member comprises an O-ring.

28. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 26 wherein the distal member comprises an annular disc.

29. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 26 wherein the distal member is of a resilient material.

30. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the retracting member is flared distally outwardly.

31. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the retractor comprises means to seal a retracted wound opening.

32. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 31 wherein the sealing means is provided externally of a wound opening.

33. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 31 wherein the sealing means is mountable to the proximal member.

34. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 33 wherein the sealing means comprises a cap.

35. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 31 wherein the sealing means comprises a valve to facilitate sealed access of an object through the sealing means.

36. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 35 wherein the object comprises an instrument.

37. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the retracting member comprises a sleeve to line a wound opening.

38. (Cancelled).

39. (Cancelled).

40. (Cancelled).

41. (Cancelled).

42. (Cancelled).

43. (Cancelled).

44. (Cancelled).

45. (Cancelled).

46. (Cancelled).

47. (Cancelled).

48. (Cancelled).

49. (Cancelled).

50. (Cancelled).

51. (Cancelled).

52. (Cancelled).

53. (Cancelled).

54. (Cancelled).